Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 01832 011413Z

45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-05

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USSS-00 /068 W

.---- 00845

O 011345Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8441

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL DAR ES SALAAM 1832

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMITH AND HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: POSSIBLE PRESS LEAK

- 1. TONY AVIRGAN, LOCAL AP STRINGER WHO ALSO FILES FOR NUMEROUS OTHER US PUBLICATIONS, HAS OBTAINED (NOT FROM US) A STORY ABOUT PETER STEINER'S MISSION. ALTHOUGH HE HAD ALREADY FILED STORY ABOUT 1100 HOURS (GMT), WE URGENTLY REQUESTED HIM NOT TO HAVE IT RELEASED AT THIS TIME. HE TELEPHONED WASHINGTON AND HAS SUCCEEDED IN HAVING STORY HELD UP, EXCEPT FOR BRIEF STATEMENT THAT STEINER IS REPRESENTATIVE OF PARENTS AND HE HAS OFFERED TO SERVE AS INTERMEDIARY TO KIDNAPPERS (WITHOUT MENTION OF ANY GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT).
- 2. WE CONCERNED THAT IF AVIRGAN HAS STORY IT IS LIKELY OTHER NEWSMAN MAY GET IT SOON TOO. WE DID NOT PROBE AVIRGAN FOR DETAILS OF HIS STORY. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT GOES BEYOND FACT THAT STEINER IS IN BUJUMBURA LOOKING FOR WAYS TO CONTACT KIDNAPPERS.

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 01832 011413Z

3. DCM TOLD FONMIN PRINCIPAL SECRETARY NYAKYI AFTERNOON JUNE 1, AS REQUESTED STATE 127473, THAT ZAIRE IS COOPERATING IN KIDNAPPING CASE BUT HAS NOT RPT NOT YET APPROVED SCENARIO OUTLINED TO MUGANDA YESTERDAY (DAR ES SALAAM 1824 AND STATE 126649 AND 125823). ADVISED NYAKYI WE ARE IN PROCESS OF SEEKING SUCH PERMISSION. NYAKYI SAID HE WOULD ASSURE NYERERE ALSO CLEAR ON THIS POINT. CARTER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: POSSIBLE PRESS LEAK TAGS: CASC, PINS, US, (SMITH, KENNETH STEVE), (HUNTER, CARRIE)

To: STATE KINSHASA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006